

1: Mellwraith E-5 (1922-1924) 1948

NE6 Bellacoola NE6

PLATE 2

115
142
291
302



Photograph by H. I. Smith, National Museum of Canada

Joshua Moody

[p 26 (B)]

1: McIlwraith E-5 (1922-1924) 1948

NE6 Bellacoola NE6

PLATE 3



115
142 ●
302
291

3

Photograph by H. I. Smith, National Museum of Canada

Captain Schooner

[J 26 (C)]

1: McIlwraith E-5 (1922-1924) 1948

NE6 Bellacoola NE6

PLATE 4

115
● 142
291
302



Photograph by H. I. Smith, National Museum of Canada

Jim Pollard

[226 (0)]

1: McIlwraith E-5 (1922-1924) 1948

NE6 Bellacoola NE6

PLATE 11



Photograph by the author

A Bella Coola couple with their dogs; the one on the left is a chief.

142
231
291
516
622

[p 186 (c)]

2:McIlwraith E-5 (1922-1924) 1948

NE6 Bellacoola NE6

PLATE 3



Photograph by R. L. Smith, National Museum of Canada

E-5 producing a crystal from his stomach

[p. 84 (c)]

575*

796*

142●

342

292

791

2:McIlwraith E-5 (1922-1924) 1948

NE6 Bellacoola NE6

PLATE 5



Photograph by H. J. Smith, Natural Museum of Canada

Cannibal with incubus in form of a bear

[p. 84 (E)]

575*
796*
142●
342
292
787

2: Mollwraith E-5 (1922-1924) 1948

NE6 Bellacoola NE6

PLATE 10

* 575
* 796
532
• 142



Photograph by the author

Dancer carrying the flag

[p. 164 (D)]

2: McIlwraith E-5 (1922-1924) 1948

NES Bellacoola NES

PLATE 13



Photograph by the author

Mrs. Joshua Mandy (left) and
Mrs. Willie Mack, two Bella
Coole women

142

291

302

342

516

[p 516 (A)]

2: McIlwraith E-5 (1922-1924) 1948

NE6 Bellacoola NE6

PLATE 14

142
291
302



Photograph by H. I. Smith, National Museum of Canada

Mrs. Jim Pollard, a Kimsquit woman

[p516 (B)]

2; McIlwraith E-5 (1922-1924) 1948

NEA Bellacoola NEA

PLATE 13



Photograph by R. L. Smith, National Museum of Canada

Mrs. Jim Pollard, profile

[p 516(3)]

192
291
302

Dr. McDevitt E-3 (1922-1924) 1948

MEM Ballerupole MEM

PLATE 16

• 142
241
302
342



Photograph by Dr. McDevitt

Dr. McDevitt, a Ballerupole man, and his children

[PSN(2)]

S. McClelland E-5 (1922-1924) 1948

NEL Bellacchia 1925

PLATE 27



142
297
302
392

Photograph by E. J. Davis, Western Division of Census

Gene Clark, a White Creek man

[p 516 (e)]

2: McDucan E-3 (1922-1924) 1948

NEA Bellacosta NEA

PLATE 19

142
241
302



Photograph of E. J. Wray, former owner of ranch
Captain Wray, on right Bellacosta NEA

[p 516 (F)]

J. MacDonald E.S. (1922-1924) 1948

NEA Bilacoola NE6

PLATE 10



142•

291

302

Charles Wray, a Klamath man

[p. 96 (6)]

2: Mellwraith E-5 (1922-1924) 1948

NE6 Bellacoola NE6

PLATE 20



Photograph by the author

Alan Davis, a full-blooded
Bella Coola

1420
291
302

[p 516 (H)]

CHAPTER VI

THE MAN HIMSELF

Physique — Character

PHYSIQUE

142 IN central British Columbia there are two types of Indian;
 144 one represented by the Carriers and Chilkat of the interior,
 the other, by the coastal peoples. The first are relatively slight
 of build with graceful carriage, and thin, rather delicate-
 featured faces. The younger people, particularly, are lithe and
 handsome, resembling bronze statues. On the other hand,
 individuals of the second type are characterized by stocky,
 heavy physique, with thick-set, powerful bodies, muscular
 arms and legs; their faces have wide mouths and prominent
 cheek-bones and noses (see Plate 13). Undoubtedly the Bella
 Coola belong with these latter.¹ No measurements were taken
 to substantiate this statement, but the general affinities of the
 tribe are obvious. Stature, build, physiognomy, and especially
 that intangible impression of heaviness, unite to demonstrate
 even to one with slight knowledge of British Columbia Indians
 that he is dealing with a people who are predominantly
 of the coastal type. Of course there are individuals of
 the interior type, but they are decidedly in the minority
 (see Plates 14 and 15). The Bella Coola claim that they can
 distinguish a coastal man from one of the interior people,
 and that every coastal tribe has its own peculiarities suffi-
 ciently marked to be recognizable on sight. Probably no white
 observer can make this fine distinction, though the difference
 between the two main types is clearly apparent.

142 Judged by white standards the Bella Coola are far from
 145 prepossessing in appearance. Even the children are plain and
 stolid, with little if any of the grace and appeal of childhood.

THE MAN HIMSELF

519

As they grow older the plainness of feature is more pronounced, accompanied by increasing heaviness of body (see Plate 16). Many of the adults are corpulent and move with slow, awkward gait. As a rule the men have great strength and are capable of prolonged and arduous exertion, particularly in paddling; in fact, constant use of canoes may have developed this powerful, ungainly build. Few are good walkers or packers; such, if they are found, usually belong to the lighter interior type. Among the grown people the face, though unbeautiful, often has a kindly expression, even becoming attractive in laughter or when a friendly grin spreads from ear to ear. With advancing age the prominent nose seems to grow larger, frequently becoming almost aquiline (see Plate 17). Many of the older people assert that this was even more common in former times. In time the face becomes lined with wrinkles and the body appears to shrink (see Plate 18). The teeth are in many cases worn down to the gums; this seems to cause no discomfort, though an old person cannot utter the glottal stops and velar sounds with which the language abounds without emitting a fine spray of saliva. They are absolutely unable to pronounce several of the Bella Coola words, while the constant spitting is a disagreeable feature of their conversation, particularly as an investigator striving, often vainly, to record words accurately. The deep wrinkles of old women give them a benign "grandmotherly" expression, which makes them more attractive in advanced age than in youth (see Plate 19). Smile lines are so frequent that the custom of infamy in mind as well as in physical power is regarded as normal.

Among the coastal tribes hair on the face is not uncommon, but in this characteristic the Bella Coola are pre-eminent. Nearly all the men have sparse mustaches, at least; many have a heavy growth, and several are full-bearded. That this was due to white mixture was assumed at first, but no evidence could be found to support this view. There are a number of half-beards in the community but they are no closer kin to the full-blooded Indians. Beards are now almost quiver-

142 •

145

481

147

142

145

[194]

[129]

886

145

142

144

302

142 sally used but the older people state that beards were by no
 144 means rare in former times. Careful inquiries were made
 [302] concerning the ancestry of a man, about seventy years of age in
 1922, whose curly beard suggests that he must be a half-breed,
 as indeed he is assumed to be by the white settlers of the
 valley. His father was *Potlu*, the most influential chief of
 recent years, his mother was herself the daughter of an im-
 portant chief. None of the older men had ever heard the
 slightest rumour of faithlessness on her part. There were white
 [648] traders on the coast at the time of his birth, and intercourse with
 [567] slave women and others of low family was not uncommon, but
 [625] it would have been difficult for a chief's wife to misconduct
 herself, and still more difficult for her to conceal all knowledge
 of it in view of the open life which prevailed at that period.
 Moreover, it is said that *Potlu* himself had a similar beard, as
 did also the parents of several men who in 1922 were fifty or
 sixty years of age.

142 Although the possibility of white mixture cannot be over-
 144 looked in the case of this one individual, one must not dis-
 regard the opinion of the people themselves on hairiness in
 826 general. They are proud of it and regard beards and moun-
 [302] tains as marks of virility given to them by *Aipenikw*; bald-
 ness and lack of facial hair are considered a sign of weakness.
 They aver that their fathers and grandfathers were even more
 hairy than they. Furthermore, they point out with pride
 [186] that this is a difference between themselves and the tribes of
 the interior, who are, as they say in scorn, "hairless like China-
 men." Finally, it is noteworthy that the hair on the head of
 many Bella Coola is wavy, or even curly (see Plate 20), instead
 of straight as among the majority of Indian tribes.*

CHARACTER

181 It is an almost impossible task to describe briefly the
 characteristics of a people. Those of the Bella Coola have

*This characteristic has led the writer to wonder if it could possibly have been
 caused by skin disease.